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## IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 24 and 28 have been amended. A listing of the claims as currently pending and the status of each is set forth below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for at least ameliorating a symptom associated with pressure applied the median nerve of the carpal tunnel of a host, said method comprising:

topically applying an affective effective amount of a topical NSAID formulation to a palmar dermal surface of said subject proximal to said carpal tunnel;

to ameliorate at least one symptom associated with pressure applied to the median nerve of the carpal tunnel of said host.

- 2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said topical NSAID formulation comprises a nonsalicylate NSAID.
- (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said topical formulation is a cream.
  - 4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said topical formulation is a patch.
  - 5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said host is a mammal.
- 6. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a mammal suffering from carpal tunnel syndrome, said method comprising:

topically applying a nonsalicylate NSAID formulation to a palmar dermis of said mammal for a period of time sufficient for amelioration of at least one symptom of said syndrome to occur;

to treat said mammal.

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said mammal is a human.

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- 8. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said formulation is a cream.
- 9. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said formulation is a patch.
- 10. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said symptom is pain.
- 11. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a human suffering from pain caused by pressure on the median nerve, said method comprising:

topically applying a nonsalicylate NSAID formulation to the palmar dermis proximal to said median nerve in a manner sufficient to at least reduce said pain; to treat said mammal.

- 12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID formulation is a cream.
- 13. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID formulation is a patch.
  - 14. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID is an acetic acid.
  - 15. (Original) The method according to Claim 14, wherein said NSAID is diclofenac.
  - 16. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID is indomethacin.
  - 17. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID is ibuprofen.
  - 18. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said NSAID is ketoprofen.
- 19. (Original) A kit for use in treating a subject suffering from pain associated with carpal tunnel syndrome, said kit comprising:

a topical NSAID formulation; and

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instructions for practicing the method according to Claim 1.

- 20. (Original) The kit according to Claim 19, wherein said NSAID formulation comprises a nonsalicylate NSAID.
  - 21. (Original) The kit according to Claim 19, wherein said formulation is a cream.
  - 22. (Original) The kit according to Claim 19, wherein said formulation is a patch.
  - 23. (Original) The kit according to Claim 19, wherein said NSAID is an acetic acid.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method for at least ameliorating a symptom associated with pressure applied to the median nerve of the carpal tunnel of a host, said method comprising:

contacting a wrist band comprising a hydrogel patch comprising a topical NSAID formulation to a palmar dermal surface proximal to a carpal tunnel of a subject to topically applying an effective amount of said topical NSAID formulation to said palmar dermal surface proximal to said carpal tunnel;

to ameliorate at lest one symptom associated with pressure applied to the median nerve of the carpal tunnel of said host.

- 25. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 24, further comprising holding said patch in place relative to said palmar dermal surface for a period of time.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 25, wherein said period of time is at least about 30 minutes.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 24, wherein said NSAID formulation is at least one of: acetic acid, diclofenac, indomethacin, ibuprofen, and ketoprofen.
- 28. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a human suffering from pain caused by pressure on the median nerve, said method comprising:

contacting a wrist band comprising a hydrogel patch comprising a nonsalicylate NSAID

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formulation to the palmar dermis proximal to said median nerve to topically applying said nonsalicylate NSAID formulation to said palmar dermis;

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to treat said human.